October 2006

Oak Leaves and Acorns

Navy Dental Reserve Newsletter

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DENTEX 06-EAST

From 18-21 May, the 14th Dental Company hosted personnel from both the 14th and 24th Dental Companies at Fort Dix, NJ. OIC for the exercise was CAPT Rich Mancino. He and his assistants, CDR Nick Demasi , CDR Greg Klein, and LT Rice, developed a training plan for the 45 attendees that included: 782 gear distribution, a gas chamber exercise (a confidence builder), 9mm pistol familiarization and qualification, and general medical training. The medical training, given by CDR Christine Hunt of 4th MEDBN, was aimed at assisting former DT's with their "difference training" as new HM's. This included triage, trauma, emergency medicine, and airway management. CDR Ken Lapolla provided BN personnel with two presentations, including an update from BUMED, and a primer on Selection Boards. RADM Lewis Libby, and CAPT Paul Bowersox, 4th DENBN XO, were in attendance for the exercise. The highlight of the 4-day exercise was a cookout for all personnel, attended by several of our recently retired shipmates, and the announcement by RADM Libby of the advancement of five (5) 4th DENBN dental officers (Canby, Burke, Brinker, Hopkins, and Bormann).

CDR Brad Silva similarly planned DENTEX 06-West from 4-7 May for 50 attendees from the 4th Dental Company out at Camp Pendleton. RDML Reidy and CAPT Priscilla Coe, 4th DENBN CO, presided at that exercise

Recently retired shipmates who attended the cookout included:
Top row (l to r); CAPT(ret) Stan Mahan,, DT1(ret) Olivia Rusty, DTC(ret) Joanne Rossato, HMCM (ret) Jill Fernandez, DTC(ret) Susan Andersen, and Front row (l to r): RADM(ret) "Mo" Hill and DTCM(ret) Paul Morgan.

2. SERVING ON A SELECTION BOARD OPPORTUNITY

Thinking of serving on a selection board? This will be a rewarding experience, but be advised, it is tough work and requires responsible thought and action.

As a Lieutenant, Lieutenant Commander or Commander, you may serve as a Board Recorder. Recorders arrive early to prepare the military records and correspondence for the Board and stay for the duration of the proceedings. Senior officers will serve as Board members. As a Board Member, you will be a candidate's advocate. You are the service member's representative to speak to the board regarding the quality and completeness of the record. Your job is to review each record assigned to you and summarize (brief) your findings to other Board Members. Each member must be fair and impartial to each individual record they review. The burden is on each Board Member to know and understand how to read the contents of the Official Military Personnel File (OMPF) which includes (but is not limited to) the Officer Summary Record (OSR), Performance Summary Record (PSR), Fitness Reports and Awards.

Abraham Lincoln said "Give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first four sharpening the axe". There are a few things you can do to "sharpen your axe": take care of your own record and prepare yourself to sit on a Selection Board.

1. Read a few of the articles that have been written about Selection Boards and Official Military Personnel Files. In 2003 CAPT Tom McAtee wrote a terrific article for Navy Reserve Association News "Naval Reserve Promotion Selection Process". This is a comprehensive piece on the promotion process covering officer responsibilities, reviewing the official records, running mates, promotion zones to name a few. Of course with the ever changing websites, some of the websites and addresses have changed, but it an article worth reading. You may find this by going to http://www.navy-reserve.org (you will need a log on password). On the left hand menu, hold the mouse over Reference Library to expand the menu. Select

"Special Articles" to find his article. For more information, go to "NRA News Magazine" under the Reference Library menu. The Professional Development section of the NRA News has had several articles in the past years regarding Service Records. Two of my favorites are the February 2005 issue article "Cleaning Up Your Official Service Record" and the October 2005 article "Managing Reporting Senior Averages", both by CAPT Mark Hardy.

2. There are many benefits of being a member of the Naval Reserve Association, one of which is the record review service they provide. If you go to the above website and look on the left hand menu under "Member Services" to expand the drop down menu, click on "Record Review/Audit". This page will publish the Board schedule and the fees associated for each record review (varies with rank). These are good record scrubs for Selection Boards and the Senior Officer Command/Non Command Screening Board (APPLY).

3. Take some time to punch around the Navy Personnel Command (NPC) home page. Go to http://www.npc.navy.mil/channels. This home page will have a link to BUPERS Online on the right side. After you log on, you can view your OSR/PSR and request a copy of your record on CD. From the top tool bar on the NPC website, run the mouse over "Boards" until the drop down menu expands, then click on "Reserve Officer". This section has a the link for "Correspondence to Promotion Board", the NAVADMIN 224/05 which eliminated the requirement to maintain the officer photograph in the military personnel file, "Address for Correspondence to the Promotion Board" and "General Board Information".

Click on "General Board Information". On the right menu, under "Topics" click on "Preparing for a Board". After reading this, from the left menu select "Serving on a Reserve Board". Here you will find the latest CNRF Board membership message with due dates for applications. (Dental Corps personnel apply through the Navy Medicine Online (NMO) website https://navymedicine.med.navy.mil under Reserve Affairs M10.)

From the left menu, click on "Selection Board Support". Here you will find the "Rules of Engagement" for serving on a selection board. The following is an excerpt from this page "After the Board":

After the Board

Your duty to maintain the confidentiality of the board's proceedings, deliberations, and results is required by law. Do not disclose anything about your board's proceedings, deliberations, or results to anyone unless specifically authorized by competent authority.

You may not counsel or advise an officer who failed to select for promotion at your board as to why he or she may not have been picked. Direct the officer to contact his or her detailer or community manager for counseling.

Do not disclose the proceedings, deliberations, vote of the board, including how you voted, or names of officers selected or not selected for promotion to anyone unless authorized by competent.

Confidentiality is paramount regarding the selection proceedings. Although deliberations and results will not be discussed, you can not serve on a Selection Board without coming away with the feeling of intense responsibility it is for all of us to care for our junior members. Serving on a selection board allows you to see the diversity of Fitness Reports that are submitted to the Official Military Personnel File. This experience will shape your understanding of how to write a Fitness Report and will improve the quality of all the reports you draft thereafter. We must ensure all members understand how their patterns of performance and career progression will impact their promotion possibilities. Our organization depends

on us selecting the very best qualified for positions of future leadership. We all must work to develop our future leaders and assist in their preparation for positions of greater responsibility.

3. DENTAL CORPS OFFICER RE-ENLISTS USMC SERGEANT

Sergeant Kenneth P. LaBrosse, United States Marine Corps was re-enlisted by LCDR Timothy P LaBrosse, USN, Dental Corps on March 27th, 2006 in a ceremony held at USMC Air Station Miramar. Sergeant LaBrosse is assigned to the III MAW, MALS 11 (REIN). The re-enlistment was Sergeant LaBrosse's first re-enlistment with the Marine Corps following his initial entry into the Marine Corps on July 17th, 2000. Sgt. LaBrosse attended MCRD San Diego for basic training, MCT Camp Pendleton for combat training, NATTC Pensacola & NAS Lemoore for aviation structural mechanic schools, and was assigned to MCAS Miramar. He completed the 11th MEU onboard the USS Bella Wood with the HMM 166 (REIN) SeaElks and a tour of duty with MCAS Al Asad (Iraq) during June through December 2004.

While I was flying down to Miramar to re-enlist my son it occurred to me that this was a once in a life time experience. I was about to re-enlist my son into the Marines. I had been so overwhelmed by hubris that I had not given thought to what I might even say while I re-enlisted Ken. It actually came quite easily. HONOR-COURAGE-COMMITMENT. As we were bound to each other as father and son, we both were bound to each other by our shared core values. After Ken's squadron formation, he posted in front of me with the following words passed from father to son:

"To re-enlist in the Marine Corps means living your life to the standards of our shared Core Values. Honor, Courage & Commitment. Based on those values I am asking now that you are entering in to this contract of your own free will and with the following intentions; by re-enlisting into the Marines you are honoring all Marines, living and deceased, with your continued pledge of service to the Corps; your courage is to wear the uniform of
your nation and to defend it's rights and freedoms regardless of personal cost; and your commitment is to shoulder the burdens of responsibilities which protect the United States of America."

Ken simply replied "Yes, sir."

My throat caught for a second and with a perhaps choking voice I read his re-enlistment oath. We shook hands and he presented me with one of those perfect Marine Corps hand salutes. Instantly my mind

traveled back to MCRD San Diego and the first hand salute he rendered me upon graduation from boot camp. I don't have words that can describe what a father feels inside at a moment like that. It transcends pride. The moment was a gift. Of all the officers that he could have chosen to read his contract oath he chose me.

LCDR Timothy LaBrosse is currently serving as the Assistant Officer In Charge of OHSU Bremerton Detachment E in Spokane, Washington. Dr. LaBrosse maintains a private dental practice in Couer d Alene, Idaho where he has practiced for 17 years.

4. CAPT WILLIAM DURM IV DC, USN RETIREMENT CEREMONY

On May 19, 2006 CAPT William Durm IV DC USN retired from Active Duty in a ceremony held at Fort Myers Officers Club, VA. A career that spanned thirty years was culminated in a personal retirement luncheon attended by over 65 friends, family and fellow colleagues. The luncheon which was moderated by CAPT Philip Vargas included farewell speeches from RADM Morris NC, USN, RADM Lewis Libby DC, USN and COL Ray Jeter DC, USA. In addition to his wife Mary and daughters Christina and Jennifer, friends included former dental school classmates RADM Lewis Libby DC USN and Dr. John Evans and his wife Patrice, colleagues from BUMED and the Pentagon Dental Clinic.

CAPT Durm is piped ashore at the conclusion of the retirement luncheon.
Sideboys Left to Right and Front to Back:
CAPT Matt Pommer DC, CDR Mark Ashley USN, LT Terri Whitson NC,
CAPT Stephan Frost MC, CAPT(sel) Jonathan Haun DC, and LCDR Raoul Santos DC.

5. Operation Cobra Gold 2006

Cobra Gold (CG) is a joint, multi-national exercise involving the Royal Thai and US military forces and is conducted to enhance capabilities and readiness. Dental personnel participating in Cobra Gold 2006 consisted of three dental officers, CAPT David Black, CAPT John Schuster, and CDR Greg Ganser. Three Dental Technician; HMCS Linda Boatner, HM2 Rene O'Donnell-Hanlon and HM2 Michael

Lawrence. CAPT David Black served as the Department Head for Dental and HMCS Linda Boatner was the Senior Enlisted Leader(SEL) for the 54 personnel MEDCAP team.

In May 2006, the Singaporean military joined Thai and US forces for some operations. Cobra Gold is a combined air, land, maritime, amphibious and special operations exercise held for 25 consecutive years in the Kingdom of Thailand. Cobra Gold also involves the execution of Humanitarian / Civic Assistance (HC/A) Programs in which Medical and Engineering Civic Assistance Programs (MEDCAPs/ENCAPs) are executed in rural Thai villages. Operational Health Support Unit Great Lakes was tasked by BUMED to conduct the MEDCAP portion of the HC/A Program. This year nine MEDCAPs were conducted at 9 different sites.

The MEDCAP was staffed by medical personnel from OHSU Great Lakes with additional support from other Navy Operational Support Centers. Active duty support was provided by: US Army veterinary services from Pacific Regional Veterinary Command (PRVC); optical fabrication services from the US Army 25th ID, US Pacific Command, HI. In addition, medical personnel from the Royal Thai Army, Navy and Air Force as well as the Singaporean military worked with US personnel in the execution of these MEDCAPs.

The mission of the 54 personnel MEDCAP team was to enhance the image of the Royal Thai Armed Forces with the rural Thai populace by providing level 1 medical care in remote village sites, to strengthen bonds of friendship between the military and governments of Thailand and the US and to cross-train medical skills between the Thai, US and Singaporean MEDCAP team members. Combined Joint Thai, Sing and US Military Forces planned and conducted MEDCAPs from 14 May to 27 May 06.

The intent of the MEDCAP operation for CG 2006 was to provide the best health care possible in a remote field environment within the constraints imposed by limited equipment, austere environmental conditions and the defined scope of practice. The MEDCAP Team was responsible for clinic activities that provided triage, general medical, dental, pharmacy, optical, physical therapy and veterinary services to rural Thai villagers. Overall, the mission was successfully completed and the objectives were met.

CAPT Dave Black, DC, USN who served as the Department Head performs a dental examination.

All credentialed medical personnel provided medical care as follows: A total of 8269 patient encounters were provided over the 9 village sites. Routine sick call and first line care was rendered for minor medical problems. Acute and chronic care included history, partial physical examinations, diagnosis and treatment

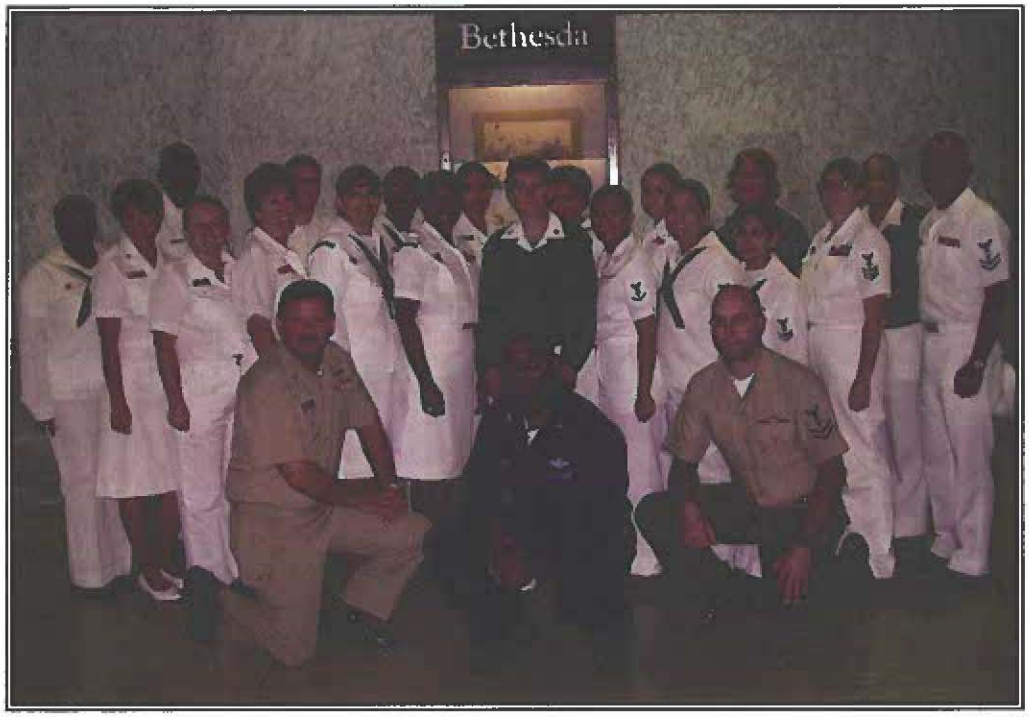
when such treatment was within the MEDCAP scope of practice. Patients deemed as emergency cases were transported to local hospitals. Dental care was limited to screening, tooth extractions and oral hygiene instruction. The dental team saw 566 patients and did 417 extractions. Veterinary care was generally limited to vaccinations, diagnosis and neutering of animals.

HMCS Linda Boatner, the Senior Enlisted Leader meets with the local children of Thailand.

Bethesda Training – September 2006

For the past 15 years the Dental Corps Reserve Component has held a primarily clinical meeting for its dental officers and enlisted at the Navy Post Graduate Dental School, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, MD. Three years ago, the meeting was expanded to include a breakout session for its Junior Dental Officers with topics on career development. This last September the meeting was divided into three distinct sessions: an Enlisted Hospital Corpsmen Basic Skills Training, a Senior Dental Officer Continuing Medical Education (CME) and a Junior Officer Career Leadership Training. The HM Basic Skills training was held on 08-10 September 2006 in Classrooms A, B, C of the Navy Post Graduate Dental School (NPGDS). The Senior Dental Officers and Junior Officers held there meeting concurrently on Saturday and Sunday at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences (USUHS) Main Campus, Classrooms A, and C.

The Enlisted attended a three day HM Skills Basic Course in accordance with BUMEDINST 1510.23A. Twenty seven enlisted attended and completed the five HM Basic Skills Competencies as part of the mandatory HM/DT difference training. Pre-requisites to complete HM"A" courses through NKO were established prior to attending the skills course. HM2 Kevion Williams, stationed at National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda in the Staff Education And Training(SEAT) department, set up the three day course as requested by HMCS Linda Boatner. HM2 Williams and his staff provided the attendees the didactics and labs instruction in Medication Administration, IV Therapy, Hemorrhage Control and Bleeding and Patient Assessment. LT Donald Shuman, LTjg Francisco McKeown, and HM1 Edward Ostrowski, provided the instruction and lab for venipuncture. All twenty seven attendees demonstrated competencies in all five skills and achieved certification in venipuncture.



HM Skills Basics Class
Backrow L to R: HM1 Karen Morrishow, HMCS Linda Boatner, HM1 Alvin Herron, HM1 Howard Kroll, HM2 John Prescod, HM2 Sandra Maynard, HM3 Sophia Kelleher, HM2 Margeaux Kowack HM2 Teresa Gali, HM2 Sandra King, HM3 Dominador Fabros.
Middlerow L to R: HM3 Joy Lail, HM1 Kate Noble, HM2 Irene Sanchez, HM3 Meosha Isom, HMCM Ellen Nuss, HM3 Janice Pacho, HM2 Lisa Wark, HM1 Maria Morris, HM1 Linda Johnston.
Frontrow L to R: HMC Scott Graule, HM2 Kevion Williams, HM2 Edward Kasper

The Junior Officer Career Development training was moderated by CAPT Craig Spencer DC, USN with welcoming remarks given by RADM Elizabeth Morris NC, USN. Over 65 Junior Officers from all four Corps and across the United States participated. Included in the program were presentations on "Promotion and APPLY Boards" - CDR Ken Lapolla, DC, USN, "Officer Online Education/NMETC" - LCDR Emily Anzinger, MSC, USN, and "Career Planning" - CAPT Stephen Frost, MC, USN. There were also three presentations given on Operational Medicine by CAPT Rom Stevens MC, USN and CAPT Paul Bowersox DC, USN - Program 9/Marine Corps Medical Battalion and Dental Battalion, respectively, and CAPT Floyd Campen DC, USN - Program 7/Seabees. The Junior officers had a Corps Breakout with many of their respective Flag officers which extended over the lunch hour to discuss Corp issues and career paths. The weather was warm and many took advantage of the picnic tables in the USUHS courtyard. Their training concluded on Sunday afternoon with a very interesting presentation on "Legal Issues and Ethics" by LT Keith McGahan, JAG, USN who serves as the Assistant Judge Advocate at BUMED.

The Senior Dental Officer CME was moderated by CAPT Steve Glawson, DC, USN with welcoming remarks given by RDML Ed Reidy DC, USN. Over 50 Senior Officers from the Operational Health Support Units, Marine Corps Dental Battalion and Naval Mobile Construction Battalion participated. Included in the program were presentations on Oral medicine by CAPT Leo Prusinski, DC, USN, Dental Materials by CAPT(sel) Jeff Nordin, and Endodontics by CAPT John Masters, DC, USN. From the 4th Dental Battalion, CDR Brad Morris, DC, USN spoke on "Nobel Guided Implant Surgery and Restoration", CDR Brent Hutson, DC, USN spoke on " Restorative Considerations for the Medically Compromised Patient", and CDR Greg Klein, DC, USN presented on "Proper Completion

of the 603 Dental Exam Form". The topic of Pediatric dentistry had presentations on the "Treatment Considerations for the Medically Complex Patient" by CAPT JC Shirley, DC, USN and "Child Abuse Recognition" by CAPT Barbara Craig, MC, USN. One of the highlights was a presentation by CAPT Alan Kulp, DC, USN on his yearlong "Deployment to Kuwait" in 2005.

Immediately following the training on Saturday, CAPT Doug Wright DC, USN conducted his retirement ceremony at the Memorial Auditorium, NNMC Bethesda. It was a beautiful and very personal ceremony, one in which several members of CAPT Wright's family participated. Daughter Julia and son Nicholas performed musically and daughter Rosemary delivered flowers to Doug's wife Karen and parents Ernest and Mary Jane. Also, brother and Army First Sergeant Ernest Wright III performed a reading of Rudyard Kipling's "If." Admiral Lewis Libby was the guest speaker and delivered a heartfelt tribute to CAPT Wright. We all thank Doug for his many years of dedicated service.

CAPT Wright presents a bouquet of flowers to his wife Karen as a sign of gratitude for her many years of sacrifice and support.

On Saturday evening, over 80 officers and enlisted went to dinner at McCormick and Schmick's Restaurant in Bethesda. The meal was held in the North Room; a room with classic mahogany wood paneling and a glassed private entrance. Following a salad course, the main entrée selection included choice of lump crab cakes, Atlantic salmon or filet mignon. Dessert was choice between cheesecake and chocolate truffle cake. RADM Lew Libby, DC, USN spoke at the conclusion of the dinner. HMCM Ellen Nuss and HMCS Linda Boatner presented HMC Scott Graule a large Brass Compass as a retirement gift. Wishing him "Fair Winds and Following Seas" with a compass so he would always continue to head in the right direction. RDML Carol Turner, dropped by and personally spoke to members at each of the 12 tables in the room and bar area. Many of the Junior and Senior Officers commented that the weekend was one of the best training opportunities and social networking events they had attended.